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January 2008

Gillespie Home Inspection Newsletter

Dear Kim,

Your feedback on our newsletter is always welcome. And please feel free to reuse any part of this text in marketing your business.

Our New Service Offering - Home Energy and Water Reviews



Do you want to make your home green? Do you want to reduce your energy and water use? Don't know where to start? We can help.

Gillespie Home Inspection now provides personal energy and water savings plans for homeowners. Our 15 years of experience in the operations of the home in combination with our partnership with GreenNow USA, who are experts in energy efficiency, creates a powerful team to help you save money and help your community.

GHI's home visit typically finds savings of 20-40%, and our report shows you exactly how to save, from habits to home improvements.

We'll find cost-effective energy and water savings. Our experience shows that personalization is the key. Habits, house types and utility services are different for everyone - we crunch the numbers for you and your house to arrive at advice that fits your life.

Gettin' Green Begins at Home

Our energy and water review begins with a 2-1/2 hour home visit. Our on-site data collection will:



- Identify energy and water saving opportunities
- Compare your energy and water use to that of other homes in the area
- Gather data on your home inside and out, using specialized equipment (infra-red camera, blower door fan, duct blaster)
- Identify the habits that you can use for immediate savings
- List the handyman-type fixes that will add to your savings
- Make recommendations on energy and water saving home improvements
- Help you set reasonable water and energy savings goals
- Help you take advantage of the special winter offer from PG&E

You will receive an immediate "Flash Report" at the end of the meeting and a full written report a couple of days later. Our reports are personalized to your home and our recommendations are tailored to fit your lifestyle.

Didja Know? A little info about Electricity



Electricity is measured in units of power called watts. It was named to honor James Watt, the inventor of the steam engine. One watt is a very small amount of power. It would require nearly 750 watts to equal one horsepower. A kilowatt represents 1,000 watts. A kilowatt-hour (kWh) is equal to the energy of 1,000 watts working for one hour. The amount of electricity a power plant generates or a customer uses over a period of time is measured in kilowatthours (kWh). Kilowatthours are determined by multiplying the number of kW's required by the number of hours of use. For example, if you use a 40-watt light bulb 5 hours a day, you have used 200 watts of power, or .2 kilowatthours of electrical energy.

Despite its great importance in our daily lives, most of us rarely stop to think what life would be like without electricity. Yet like air and water, we tend to take electricity for granted. Everyday, we use electricity to do many functions for us -- from lighting to being the power source for televisions and computers.

We pay our share for the privilege of the convenience of electricity. Historically, electric rates have increased 7% per year. However, California's Public Utility Commission has ruled that we must have expensive carbon reduction measures from coal plants. You can expect higher electricity rates in 2009 and after because 40% of our electricity

comes from coal plants.

Just for Fun

The first person to respond with the correct answer to this trivia question will win a Barnes & Noble card. Send your answer to kim@gillespiehomeinspection.com.

(There were several winners of last month's trivia - it was the holidays after all. They all correctly guessed that the Grinch's dog was named "Max"!)

In 1879, Thomas Edison invented a carbon filament that burned in a light bulb (the bulb was previously patented by others). How long did one of these light bulbs last?

We work your hours, call anytime...

kim@gillespiehomeinspection.com

408.871.9909 or 1.877.9.No Prob

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